

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T CAIRO 16924

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EG IS
SUBJECT: GAMASY/WEIZMAN MEETING

REF: CAIRO 16900

1. JUST ABOUT MIDNIGHT LAST NIGHT, ACTING PRESIDENT MUBARAK TELEPHONED ME AT HOME ON SECURE PHONE. HE SAID SADAT HAD DECIDED MEET WITH WEIZMAN IN SALZBURG. MEETING SCHEDULED TAKE PLACE 1430 AUSTRIAN TIME TODAY. GAMASY WILL LEAVE THIS MORNING TO BE PRESENT AT MEETING. THUS MEETING WILL NOMINALLY BE BETWEEN WEIZMAN AND GAMASY, BUT WILL IN FACT BE BETWEEN SADAT AND WEIZMAN.

2. THIS MORNING'S CAIRO PRESS REPORTS THAT GAMASY HAS TURNED DOWN LATEST WEIZMAN SUGGESTION FOR A MEETING BECAUSE NO NEW ELEMENT HAS BEEN ADDED BY ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI FONMINS ARE IN ANY CASE DUE TO MEET IN LONDON. SINCE SUBSTANCE THESE PRESS REPORTS IS SIMILAR TO WHAT MUBARAK TOLD ME YESTERDAY (REFTEL), I ASSUME THEY ARE BASED ON EARLIER GOE GUIDANCE TO THE EGYPTIAN PRESS. SADAT'S INSTRUCTIONS SEEM TO HAVE ARRIVED LATE LAST EVENING AFTER PRESS HAD ALREADY BEEN BRIEFED. IN MIDNIGHT TELECON, MUBARAK SAID GOE WILL
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SOMETIME TODAY PUBLISH THE NEWS OF A GAMASY/WEIZMAN MEETING.

3. COMMENT: SADAT'S DECISION TO MEET WITH WEIZMAN RESULTS FROM SEVERAL CONSIDERATIONS. FIRST, HE LIKES WEIZMAN AND BELIEVES ISRAELI MINDEF IS THE ONLY ISRAELI POLITICAL LEADER GENUINELY SEEKING PEACE. SECOND,

SADAT IS CURIOUS TO ASCERTAIN DIRECTLY FROM WEIZMAN WHETHER THERE IS LIKELY TO BE ANY GIVE IN THE ISRAELI POSITION ON THE WEST BANK/GAZA WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED BY DAYAN IN LONDON. THE ANSWER OR IMPRESSION THAT HE RECEIVES FROM WEIZMAN WILL HELP SHAPE HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO KAMEL FOR THE LONDON TALKS. THIRD, SADAT RECALLS VP MONDALE'S URGING THAT DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN WEIZMAN AND GAMASY BE RESUMED AS SOON AS APPROPRIATE. HE THEREFORE BELIEVES AGREEING TO MEET WITH WEIZMAN WILL PLEASE US. FINALLY, SINCE SADAT IS CURRENTLY OUTSIDE OF EGYPT, SUCH A MEETING IN SALZBURG IS CONSISTENT WITH HIS COMMITMENT TO NUMAYRI THAT AS LONG AS THE ARAB RECONCILIATION EFFORT IS UNDERWAY NO DIRECT EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE INSIDE EGYPT. EILTS

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